

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **LTC Jessie L. Tucker III, PhD, FACHE, Receives ACHE's Robert S. Hudgens Award**



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**CHICAGO, January 12, 2007**—LTC Jessie L. Tucker III, PhD, FACHE, commander of Fox Army Health Center, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., has won the American College of Healthcare Executives 2007 Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for young healthcare executive of the year. Tucker will receive the award on Monday, March 19, 2007, at the Parker B. Francis Distinguished Lecture during ACHE's 50th Congress on Healthcare Leadership in New Orleans.

The Hudgens Award is presented annually to an exceptional healthcare executive who is less than 40 years old and who is the chief executive officer or chief operating officer of a health services organization. The award was established in 1969 by the Alumni/ae Association of the Department of Health Administration at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, in tribute to its former course director and ACHE's first vice president, Robert S. Hudgens, FACHE.

In 2007 Tucker was selected to become the next chief of staff of the Army's academic medical center in Fort Bragg, N.C. From 2006 to 2007, he served as commander of Fox Army Health Center. In the short time he has served in these and previous leadership positions, including commander of the Kleber Army Health Clinic in Kaiserslautern, Germany, from 2003 to 2005 and deputy commander of Fox Army Health Center from 2005 to 2006, he has focused on improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the Army's healthcare system by introducing and teaching applicable best practices.

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Prior to his assignment at Kleber Army Health Clinic, Tucker was executive officer of the Army Southeast Regional Dental Command from 2001 to 2003 and attained associate professor rank in the U.S. Army–Baylor University Graduate Program in Health Care Administration from 1998 to 2001. From 1993 to 1995, he served as executive officer and company commander of the Multi-Clinic Dental Practice at Fort Rucker, Ala., before commencing his doctoral studies in 1995.

Tucker is a certified corporate financial manager and a Six Sigma black belt, and is a Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education commissioner.

Tucker received the Surgeon General's "A" Proficiency Designator and the Order of Military Medical Merit in 2004, was named the U.S. Army–Baylor University Graduate Program's Faculty Researcher of the Year in 2001 and has received numerous U.S. Army Meritorious Service and Combat awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the National Defense Service Medal with bronze service star.

Board certified in healthcare management and an ACHE Fellow, Tucker received his doctoral degree in healthcare administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, his master's degrees from Troy State University and Bowie State University, and his bachelor's degree from the University of South Carolina.

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## **American College of Healthcare Executives**

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,000 participants each year. ACHE also is known for its journals, the *Journal of Healthcare Management* and *Frontiers of Health Services Management*, and its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, as well as ground-breaking research and career development and public policy programs. ACHE's publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on all aspects of health services management in addition to textbooks for use in college and university courses. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare leaders by providing exceptional value to its members.

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